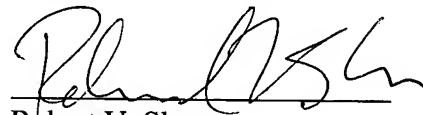


Preliminary Amendment
PCT/EP02/00292
Attorney Docket Q76374

REMARKS

The application has been amended to delete the multiple dependencies therein, and to eliminate the reference to specific claims within the specification. Entry and consideration of this Amendment and an early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert V. Sloan
Registration No. 22,775

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE



23373

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: July 9, 2003